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February 2013

# Cityscene

A Report to the Citizens of the City of Fairfax



## DATELINE

### Dog License Deadline is February 1

2013 dog licenses are due by February 1. Dog licenses, issued by the Treasurer's Office in City Hall, cost \$5 per year for altered dogs and \$10 per year for unaltered dogs.

Dogs age 4 months and older who live in the city must wear a city dog license.

License applications are available at the Treasurer's Office in City Hall and on the city's website. For information, call 703-385-7900.

### Chocolate Lovers Festival is on the horizon. Find out how to participate — see page 2!

### City Government Offices Close February 18

City government offices will close February 18 in observance of George Washington Day.

The General District Court also will be closed February 18. For information, call 703-385-7866.

The CUE Bus will run on a modified weekday schedule. For information, call 703-385-7859.

Trash and recyclables will not be collected. Those with regular Monday collection should place items at the curb on Tuesday, February 19. For information, call 703-385-7837.

The Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center will be open. For information, call 703-385-8414.

If you're new to the city, welcome!  
Call 703-385-7800  
for new resident information.

## City Budget Process Continues With Presentation February 26

Help the City Council determine the city's financial priorities for fiscal year 2013-14 by participating in the annual budget review.

The budget process continues when City Manager Bob Sisson presents the proposed budget to the City Council and the public February 26.

The budget review process will continue until the Mayor and City Council adopt the final budget, which is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1.

In addition to the meetings and work sessions, the City Council will hold a community outreach meeting to provide the public with an additional opportunity to speak on the budget. *(Please see the schedule at right.)*

For those who cannot attend a meeting, contact information for the Mayor and City Council is listed on the back page of the *Cityscene*.

The budget is a detailed description of how taxpayer money is spent and also is a fact-filled reference on the city government's structure and operations.

The proposed budget explains the

city's goals, proposed programs and activities for that fiscal year. The budget also includes the first year of the five-year Capital Improvement Program, as well as water, sewer and transit funds.

Copies of the proposed budget will be available at the February 26 City Council meeting, and the budget document and will be posted on the city's website. For information, call 703-385-7870.

### Budget Review Schedule

February 26: budget presentation  
March 12: City Council meeting and work session  
March 19: public outreach meeting and work session (staff presentations)  
March 26: public hearing and work session — real estate tax rate to be advertised  
April 9: public hearing and work session  
April 23: public hearing and work session  
May 1: public hearing and budget adoption

**Budget meetings and work sessions are at the City Hall Annex and are televised on Cityscreen-12; see page 5 for schedule and viewing information. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed. Schedule is subject to change.**

## Commission Seeks Public Input on City Charter

The City of Fairfax City Charter, adopted in 1961, currently is being reviewed — and the public is invited to assist in the process. The charter, which is the equivalent to a constitution, sets out broad guidelines of governance.

The City Council has established a seven-member committee to review the City Charter and invites the public to offer input regarding the charter.

Please submit comments in writing to City Charter Committee Chairman John Mason by March 22 at the City Manager's Office in City Hall or via e-mail ([john.mason35@cox.net](mailto:john.mason35@cox.net)).

The City Charter, which is Part I of the City Code, is available on the city's website, in the Virginia Room of the City of Fairfax Regional Library and in the City Manager's Office, Room 316 of City Hall.

After conducting a review and receiving public input, the committee will submit its recommendations to the City Council.

The City Council will hold public hearings on any proposed changes to the City Charter prior to submitting them to the General Assembly for approval, as required by Virginia law. For information, call 703-385-7936.



## NEWS & NOTES

### City Earns Top Rating for Budget Accessibility

The Virginia Coalition for Open Government researched 134 Virginia jurisdictional websites to find out how many clicks it takes to get to local budget information.

The City of Fairfax's answer — one — earned it the best rating in the commonwealth.

With a single click from the city's home page, web visitors can find information on the current fiscal year budget, as well as previous budgets. Rose Chen is the web architect for the city's Information Technology Department.

VCOG is a non-profit alliance that promotes expanded access to government records, meetings and other proceedings at the state and local level, focusing solely on local/state information access.

### City Awarded Keep America Beautiful Citation

The City of Fairfax has received Keep America Beautiful's Distinguished Service Citation National Award.

The city's appearance and beautification program was selected for this award because of the city's outstanding beautification efforts as a government agency and its capacity to engage individuals to improve their community environments.

Keep America Beautiful has recognized the city in the past for its beautification programs, most recently by placing third in its national competition. For information, call 703-385-7810.

**Find out first! Find out fast!**

Sign up for eMAS,  
the City of Fairfax electronic  
message alert system,  
on the  
city's website:  
[www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov).



## Chocolate News

# Challenge Applications Due; 'Spirit Day' Set for February 28

George Mason University Department of Nutrition and Food Studies seeks chocolatiers for the Chocolate Challenge at the Chocolate Lovers Festival.

The Chocolate Challenge will be held at the school's Nutrition Kitchen, 3950 University Drive (at North Street). Judges for the event are Warren Brown of Cake-Love; Sabrina Campbell of Occasionally Cake; Thomas Prohaska, Mason's Dean of College of Health and Human Services, and his wife, Beth; and City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne.

Applications from professional and amateur participants will be accepted



*Limited edition valentine for sale: \$5 includes coupon for free Taste pogs; sold at City Hall and Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center while supplies last*

through February 18 and are available at [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net) or by calling 703-385-7949.

On February 28, patrons of Chik-fil-A at the Fairfax Circle may help raise money for Chocolate Lovers Festival grant program. Mention "Chocolate Lovers Festival" when ordering from 4-9 p.m. February 28 at that location and

Chik-fil-A will donate 20 percent of that purchase to the program.

The festival will be held March 2-3 in Old Town Fairfax. A schedule of events is posted on the festival website. For information, visit [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net) or call 703-385-1661.

### Mark Your Calendar:

## Commemoration of Mosby's Raid Set for March 9

The 150th anniversary of Colonel John S. Mosby's "Fairfax Court House Raid" — details to follow!

Information: 703-385-8414; [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov)

## Free Assistance Available For Tax Prep

The Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue provides free assistance by appointment from February 11 through April 12 preparing and filing federal, state and estimated tax returns in City Hall.

Tax preparation assistance is available to city residents with an income up to \$60,000. To make an appointment, call 703-385-7880.

The city checks all incoming state tax returns and makes corrections as needed.

Electronic state tax filing, available to qualified residents (independent of income level), allows the Commissioner of the Revenue to electronically submit Virginia Accelerated Income Tax returns to Richmond. If refunds are anticipated, citizens could receive them more quickly than if the return is mailed.

Federal and state tax forms are available on the second floor of City Hall and on the city's website. For information, call 703-385-7880.

### AARP, VITA, TCE Tax Assistance

AARP TaxAide and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) offer free federal tax return assistance to low- and moderate-income persons of any age at drop-in locations. For information, see the calendar in this issue or call (888) AARP-NOW.

Military personnel and the elderly have options: Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) provides free tax help for people age 60 and older and military personnel also can get free tax help through the Armed Forces Tax Council. For information, call (800) 829-1040.

# Learn About Public Safety in Fire, Police Citizen Academies

Public safety is an important service offered by the city — but how much do you really know about it?

Find out more about fire and police services in the city at citizen academies offered by both the City of Fairfax Fire Department and Police Department.

Instructors are members of the city's fire and police departments. Academy applicants must be at least 18 years of age and live or work in the city. For the police academy, applicants must be U.S. citizens and background checks will be conducted. Applications are available on the city's website.



The Citizen's Fire Academy is a 12-week course that begins March 6 at the Public Safety Training Center, 9650 Colonial Avenue. Topics include code administration, emergency medical service, search and rescue and fire intervention. Applications are due February 28. For information, call 703-385-7813.

The Citizens' Police Academy is an 11-week course that begins March 28 at the City of Fairfax Police Station, 3730 Old Lee Highway. Topics include traffic enforcement, K-9, forensics, accident reconstruction and scams. Applications are due March 1. For information, call 703-385-7923.

## Interest-Free Loans Available for Home Improvements

After many years, homes that once were modern and efficient may no longer meet the needs of their owners.

Those who live in detached single family homes in the city who are thinking about improvements, including upgrading the residence, make it more "green" or modify it to age-in-place, may consider this program that can make home improvements more affordable.

The non-profit City of Fairfax Renaissance Housing Corporation (FRHC) makes available to qualified homeowners home improvement loans of as much as \$99,999 with no interest paid by the borrower during the first 24 months.

These loans are not income-sensitive

and are available for modernizing or repairing City of Fairfax single family homes built at least 10 years ago. Homes must display a need, such as exterior or interior deterioration, functional obsolescence or lack of amenities found in today's new homes.

The homeowner must reside at the property being renovated and must remain in the home for at least two years from the loan closing date. As much as one quarter of the loan may be required to fund exterior improvements.

FRHC is committed to improving the quality of residential neighborhoods in the city through this ongoing program.

For information, call 703-385-2494.

## Business Recycling Reports Due Online By March 1



**All city businesses  
MUST participate!**

**Submit report via the city website:  
[www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov)  
(click on Commercial Recycling Report link)**

**Information: 703-385-7837, [dave.ray@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:dave.ray@fairfaxva.gov)**



# ALMANAC

### Free Mulch Available from Fairfax County

The city contracts with Fairfax County for use of its mulching facility. Residents may pick up mulch from the Fairfax County I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road.

Double-shredded wood mulch is available year-round and leaf mulch is available seasonally (November through March). Availability varies.

Hours are 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. For information, call 703-324-5995.

### Refuse Container Size Limited; Place at Curb in Timely Fashion

City Code limits the size of refuse containers to 35 gallons or 60 pounds.

Recyclables may be placed at the curb using city-supplied bins or full-size blue trash containers clearly marked as "recycling."

Residents are asked to place all containers and debris at the curb no earlier than dusk the previous day and no later than 7 a.m. of collection day.

Please remove these containers from the curb by 8 p.m. on collection day. City refuse and recycling collection is provided once a week.

Remember, the city does not collect debris created by contractors. The cost of disposing contractor debris should not be borne by the city government.

### Recycling, Disposal Information Available

The City of Fairfax has two flyers to help residents properly dispose of trash and recyclables in the city:

- *How to Dispose of Items in the City*
- *Curbside Recycling is Easier Than Ever*

For a copy of the flyers, visit the city's website (click on "Refuse & Recycling" on the home page) or call 703-293-7141.

**INFORMATION: 703-385-7837**



## City Provides Real Estate Tax, Rent Relief

The City of Fairfax provides real estate tax and rental relief for senior citizens or city residents with permanent or total disabilities.

For real estate tax relief, the combined gross household income limit is \$62,000 and the current asset limit is \$340,000. Different types of real estate tax relief are granted on a sliding scale based on income. Look for program information in tax assessment notices.

Qualified homeowners may choose from the following program options:

- *basic tax relief* (full or partial tax relief);
- *tax deferral*;
- *tax freeze*; or
- *combination tax freeze and deferral*.

Rent relief is available for senior citizens or renters with permanent or total disabilities. The maximum household income level is \$40,000 and the assistance is a single payment of \$420 per year.

Also, Virginia law has created a real estate tax exemption for the primary residence of certain disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. The veteran must be declared 100 percent service-connected, permanently and totally disabled by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. For information, call 703-359-2486.

Applications for these programs are available from the Finance Department. For information, call 703-359-2486.

**Adopt your neighborhood fire hydrant — keep it accessible by removing snow and debris from around it year-round!**

### City Offers Safety Seat Installation By Appointment

The Code Administration Office provides free assistance to city residents with the installation or inspection of child safety seats.

Installations are available weekdays by appointment; call 703-385-7830.

Virginia law requires that children use proper child restraint devices (safety seats or booster seats) until their eighth birthday. Virginia law also requires all passengers (and drivers, if applicable) younger than 18 to be belted correctly while traveling in vehicles. For information, call 703-385-7996.

## City Workers Save Shelter, Money

*Quick thinking and elbow grease by city workers gave CUE Bus riders shelter at a fraction of its regular cost. Metro removed a deteriorated bus shelter it had previously placed at a shared CUE/Metro stop near Foxcroft Colony on Fairfax Boulevard — but would not replace it. CUE*

*Bus workers Tom Wortman, Bill Nash and Jeff Harrison located a damaged bus shelter at the Property Yard and salvaged it — with \$450 in parts — and installed it (pictured, right). A new shelter would have cost the city \$10,000. (Photo by Bill Nash, City of Fairfax)*



## Partial Tax Exemption Offered for Renovated Homes

Residents who plan to substantially upgrade their older residences may be eligible for a partial real estate tax exemption.

The exemption amount is based on the increased value of the residence that has been substantially rehabilitated, renovated or replaced. Exemptions are given for a 10-year period, with a 100 percent exemption of the increased value for the first five years then decreasing percentage for years six through 10.

The residential structure — single-family house or duplex — must be at least 15 years old. The improvements

must increase the assessed value by at least 15 percent. The homeowner must obtain appropriate building permits and inspections during the home improvement process.

Applicant must apply for the exemption *before any construction begins* (preferably as soon as any required building permits are granted).

The city assessor will establish the base value of the home before construction begins, and approve the exemption upon final inspection after construction is finished.

For information, call 703-385-7840.

### Volunteers Sought for Advisory Boards

- **Board of Building Code Appeals** (five vacancies: architect, engineer, mechanical/plumbing, electrical, and fire protection representatives) — Hears appeals to the BOCA Code (Building Officials and Code Administrators) and makes recommendations to the state board of housing for changes or modifications to the building code.
- **Commission for Women** (one vacancy for city resident) — Identifies and advocates for the needs of women in the city. Promotes programs to increase awareness and provide services to the community. Open to men and women. Meets on the third Tuesday of the month.
- **Community Appearance Committee** (one vacancy for city resident or business representative) — Coordinates the city's Adopt-a-Spot program and clean-up month/day programs, in addition to commercial, residential and holiday decoration award programs. Meets on the fourth Thursday of the month.
- **Fairfax Alcohol Safety Action Program Policy Board** (one vacancy for city resident) — Serves as directorate for the local programs within the local Alcohol Safety Action Program.
- **Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board** (one vacancy for a city resident) — Oversees the mental-health, intellectual and developmental disability and substance use disorder services of the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church and Fairfax County.

**Applications will be considered at an upcoming City Council meeting following submission. Unless otherwise noted, city residency is required (at least one year living in the city and registered to vote in the city). Submit letters of interest and résumé (if available) to City Clerk Melanie Burrell. Vacancies are subject to change. Information: 703-385-7935.**



# FEBRUARY CABLE SCHEDULE

## School Board Meeting



Monday, February 4, 7:30 pm, LIVE  
replays: Tuesday, February 7, 10 am, 7 pm;  
Thursday, February 9, 10 am, 7 pm  
*Archived online February 7*

## Planning Commission Meetings



Monday, February 11, 7 pm, LIVE  
replays: Tuesday, February 12, 10 am;  
Thursday, February 14, 10 am, 7 pm  
*Archived online February 12*  
Monday, February 25, 7 pm, LIVE  
replays: Tuesday, February 26, 10 am;  
Thursday, February 28, 10 am, 7 pm  
*Archived online February 26*

## City Council Meetings, Work Sessions



Tuesday, February 12, 7 pm, LIVE  
replays: Wednesday, February 13 and  
Friday, February 15, 10 am, 7 pm; Saturday,

February 16 and Sunday, February 17,  
10 am

*Archived online February 13*

*OnDEMAND replay begins February 17*

Tuesday, February 26, 7 pm, LIVE  
replays: Wednesday, February 27  
and Friday, March 1, 10 am, 7  
pm; Saturday, March 2 and March 3,  
10 am

*Archived online February 27*

*OnDEMAND replay begins March 3*

## City Council Special Work Session at George Mason University



Tuesday, February 19, 7 pm, LIVE  
replays: Wednesday, February 20 and  
Friday, February 22, 10 am, 7 pm; Saturday,  
February 23 and Sunday, February 24,  
10 am

*Archived online February 20*

*OnDEMAND replay begins February 24*

## The Fairfax Scene

In February, take a tour of the Ratcliffe-Allison House, the city's oldest residence that recently celebrated its bicentennial.

*The Fairfax Scene* plays at 2 pm and 6 pm daily. The show will be archived online under "special programming" and on the city's YouTube channel.

## Encore!

Enjoy encore performance of the City of Fairfax Band at 4 pm daily.

## The Road to Recovery

On days there are no meetings or meeting replays, watch *The Road to Recovery*, a program produced by the Department of Health and Human Services, which plays in meeting time slots.

**Programming is subject to change — see Cityscreen-12 to confirm the programming schedule. Information: 703-385-7803.**



## Proposed Agendas for School Board, Planning Commission, City Council

### School Board (for information, call 703-385-7911)

#### February 4 regular meeting

- Student representative report.
- Daniels Run Elementary School: State of the School Report.

#### February 25 work session

- Discussions: on changes to the *FCPS Student Rights and Responsibilities*; on the *Superintendent's Entry Plan*.
- Review of the fiscal year 2013-14 City Council budget presentation.

### Planning Commission (for information, call 703-385-7930)

#### February 11 regular meeting and work session

- Discussion of the proposed rezoning for a new shopping center at 9538 Lee Highway (next to the existing Arthur Treacher's restaurant north of Fairfax Circle).

#### February 25 regular meeting and work session

- No agenda items have been set.

### City Council (for information, call 703-385-7935)

#### February 12 regular meeting and work session

- Introduction of an ordinance extending for an additional 120 days the franchises granted to Virginia Electric and Power Company and Verizon Virginia LLC.
- Consideration of an award of a contract for the Parks and Recreation strategic plan.
- Discussions: of the Chain Bridge Road bridge veneer; of Fall Festival route change; 2013 Festival of Lights and Carols; and photo red light expansion in the city.

#### February 19 special work session at George Mason University

- Presentation by Bob Vay, GMU Special Collections and Archives, on the history and relationship between the city and George Mason University.
- Discussion of future economic development needs in the Old Town Fairfax District.

#### February 26 regular meeting and work session

- Public hearing on a request for a special use permit pursuant to City Code to allow dancing and entertainment as uses ancillary to a restaurant (Red Zone Grill) at 10560 Main Street (Mosby Building).
- Joint discussion with the Economic Development Authority.
- Presentation on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2013-14 by City Manager Bob Sisson.

**Meeting information is subject to change; call to confirm.**





# CITY COUNCIL REPORTER

**January 8**

## **Consent agenda**

- Approved, unanimously, Consideration of an award of contract to Enviro-Organic Technologies, Inc. in the amount of 7.9¢ per gallon for the purpose of hauling ferric sulfate sludge from the Goose Creek Water Treatment Plant; Consideration of an award of contract for Timmons Group in the amount of \$65,370 to prepare a local stormwater management program, staffing needs, funding requirements and implementation plan, as well as a draft stormwater ordinance; Introduction of an appropriation resolution in the amount of \$50,000 for purchase and installation of emergency intersection battery power back-up systems.

## **Public hearings**

- Approved, unanimously, the request of Antonio's New York Pizzeria for a special use permit to allow the operation of a specialty food establishment that provides delivery service in the C-2 Retail Commercial District at 3850 Old Lee Highway subject to conditions.
- Approved, unanimously, adoption of a resolution requesting the General Assembly to amend the City Charter to increase the maximum permitted transient occupancy tax.

## **Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

- Confirmed, unanimously, the following appointments to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments:
  - o COG Board of Directors: Councilmember Drummond; Councilmember Greenfield (Alternate)
  - o National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board: Councilmember Meyer; Councilmember Drummond (Alternate)
  - o Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee: Councilmember Stombres; Councilmember DeMarco (Alternate)
  - o Region Forward Coalition: Councilmember Greenfield
  - o Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee: Councilmember Schmidt; Councilmember Greenfield (Alternate)

- o Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee: Councilmember Meyer
- o Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee: Councilmember Meyer
- Appointed, unanimously, Barbara Elbeze for a three-year term extending through January 8, 2016 and Brenda Kuhlman for the remainder of a three-year term extending through June 30, 2014 to the Commission for Women.

**January 22**

## **Consent agenda**

- Approved, unanimously, Consideration of an award of a construction contract to American Contracting & Environmental Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$162,000 for a liquid ammonia project at the Goose Creek Water Treatment Plant; Consideration of an award of a contract to Zambelli Fireworks International in the amount of \$34,000 for the fireworks display related to the Independence Day evening show on July 4, 2013 with a renewable option through 2017 not to exceed \$35,000 per year; Introduction of an ordinance extending for an additional 120 days the franchise granted to Virginia Electric and Power Company by ordinance on July 20, 1982 (Ordinance No. 1982-24); Introduction of an ordinance extending for an additional 120 days the franchise granted to Verizon Virginia LLC by ordinance on July 20, 1982 (Ordinance No. 1982-25). *(Mayor Silverthorne and Councilmember DeMarco were absent from the vote.)*

## **Public hearings**

- Approved, unanimously, adoption of the supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$50,000 for the purchase and installation of emergency intersection battery power back-up systems. *(Mayor Silverthorne and Councilmember DeMarco were absent from the vote.)*

## **Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

- Reappointment of Mary Jo Rasmussen to a two-year term extending through

February 8, 2015 to the Commission on Aging. *(Councilmember DeMarco was absent.)*

- Reappointment of Frank Franz to a two-year term extending through March 10, 2015 to the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Advisory Council. *(Councilmember DeMarco was absent.)*

**Attend City Council meetings and work sessions.**

**Agendas are available on the city's website: [click here](#).**

**To request a copy of the agenda, call the City Clerk at 703-385-7935.**

**Watch televised City Council meetings live and replayed on Cityscreen-12, the city's cable television station, as well as on Cox Communications OnDEMAND and on the city's website. See page 5!**

## **In Case of Emergency...**

### *City newsline*

703-273-1776

recorded information  
24-hour access, updates

### *City website*

[www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov)

24-hour access, updates

### *Cityscreen-12*

Channel 12 on cable television  
and city website

24-hour access, updates

### *eMAS message alert system*

messages sent to subscribers  
via e-mail, pager, text and phone  
24-hour access, updates

### *General Information*

703-385-7855 (TTY: 7-1-1)  
regular business hours

### *Office of Emergency Management*







703-385-4856 (TTY: 7-1-1)  
regular business hours

*Council Reporters are condensed due to space constraints. For a complete copy, call 703-385-7935.*



# City of Fairfax Community Calendar

# February 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Helpful Phone Numbers</b> City government information..... 703-385-7855 City News and Events Line..... 703-273-1776 Arts and Cultural Events Line..... 703-352-ARTS City of Fairfax Regional Library ..... 703-293-6227 Civil War Interpretive Center ..... 703-591-0560 Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center ..... 703-385-8414 FHS Sports Line..... 703-749-8130 George Mason University events..... 703-993-1056 Information is subject to last-minute change.		<b>Events at George Mason University, including concerts and student activities, may affect traffic in the city.</b> <b>For information, visit <a href="http://today.gmu.edu">today.gmu.edu</a> or call 703-993-1056.</b>	<b>Watch where you're going!</b> <b>Don't drive distracted — and don't break the law by texting while driving. It's dangerous for everyone on the road.</b>	<b>Drink tap water from safe refillable containers.</b> <b>This saves money (as much as \$1,800 per year) and keeps plastic out of landfills and recycling facilities.</b>	<b>1</b> <i>Dog licenses due (see page 1)</i> Bingo, 7:15 pm, Fire Station 3 (benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department) <i>Paco Pena: Flamenço Vivo</i> , 8 pm, Center for the Arts	<b>2</b> Town Hall meeting and survey with Delegate David Bulova, 9 am, City Hall Casino Night — Fairfax High School Baseball and Softball, 6 pm, Fire Station 3
<b>3</b> <b>City vehicle license plates and Animal Friendly license plates benefit city programs.</b> <b>Information:</b> <a href="http://www.fairfaxva.gov">www.fairfaxva.gov</a> , 703-385-7855	<b>4</b>  School Board meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall Annex (televised; see page 5)	<b>5</b> Evenings Under the Stars, 6 pm, George Mason University Observatory Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	<b>6</b> InterService Club Council, noon, Red Lobster Environmental Sustainability Committee, 7 pm, Sherwood Community Center Board of Architectural Review meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall Annex	<b>7</b> Fairfax City Democratic meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall Annex <i>Richard Arjona</i> , 8 pm, Center for the Arts	<b>8</b> Sherwood Cinema Series: <i>ParaNorman</i> , 7 pm, Sherwood Community Center (see page 8) Bingo, 7:15 pm, Fire Station 3 (benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department) <i>U.S. Navy Band Woodwind Quintet</i> , 8 pm, Old Town Hall	<b>9</b> <i>FX Players: You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown</i> , 11 am, 7:30 pm, Fairfax High School Swing Dances at Sherwood, 8 pm (free dance lessons at 7:30 pm), Sherwood Community Center <i>Mark Morris Dance Group</i> , 8 pm, Center for the Arts
<b>10</b> Second Sunday Series: <i>Between the Lines: Free Blacks Living on Mason Neck during the Civil War</i> , 2 pm, Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center (see page 8)	<b>11</b>  <i>City tax preparation assistance begins (see page 2)</i> <i>Independence Day Grand Marshal nominations due (see page 8)</i> Planning Commission meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex (televised; see page 5)	<b>12</b>  City Council meeting and work session, 7 pm, City Hall Annex (televised; see page 5) English Conversation Group, 7 pm, City of Fairfax Regional Library	<b>13</b> League of Women Voters meeting, 6:15 pm, Yen Cheng Restaurant, 9992 Main Street Spotlight on the Arts meeting, 7 pm, Sherwood Center Historic Fairfax City, Inc., meeting 7 pm, Civil War Interpretive Center	<b>14</b> Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, 7 pm, Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center	<b>15</b> <i>Independence Day logo submissions due (see page 8)</i> Bingo, 7:15 pm, Fire Station 3 (benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department) <i>The Vagina Monologues</i> , 8 pm, George Mason University Harris Theater	<b>16</b> <i>The Vagina Monologues</i> , 8 pm, George Mason University Harris Theater
<b>17</b> <i>Northern Virginia Youth Winds: Winter Concert</i> , 3 pm, Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road	<b>18</b> <i>George Washington Day</i> <b>Trash and recyclables are not collected</b> <i>City government offices closed</i> <i>General District Court closed</i> <i>CUE Bus on modified weekday schedule</i> <i>Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center open</i> <i>Chocolate Challenge applications due</i>	<b>19</b>  <b>Monday and Tuesday trash/recycling routes collected</b> City Council special work session, 7 pm, George Mason University Mason Hall (televised; see page 5) Evenings Under the Stars, 6 pm, George Mason University Observatory	<b>20</b> Economic Development Authority meeting, 6 pm, 4031 University Drive Board of Architectural Review meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall Annex <i>Visiting Writer: Caroline Preston</i> , George Mason University Research Hall	<b>21</b> <i>Friday Morning Music Club</i> , 11 am, Old Town Hall Independence Day Celebration Committee meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex City of Fairfax Republican Committee meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	<b>22</b> Bingo, 7:15 pm, Fire Station 3 (benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department) <i>Roger Behrend Brass Quartet</i> , 8 pm, Old Town Hall	<b>23</b> Civil War Interpretive Center Series: <i>The Civil War, Emancipation, and Black Soldiers</i> , 2 pm, Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim (see page 8)
<b>24</b> Electric Sunday, 10 am to 3 pm, I-66 Transfer Station Keyboard Conversations with Jeffery Seigel: <i>Schubert in the Age of the Sound-Byte</i> , 7 pm, Center for the Arts	<b>25</b>  Planning Commission meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex (televised; see page 5) School Board work session, 7:30 pm, Lanier Middle School	<b>26</b>  City Council meeting and work session, 7 pm, City Hall Annex (televised; see page 5) English Conversation Group, 7 pm, City of Fairfax Regional Library	<b>27</b> <b>Pedestrians, be safe: remain visible to drivers and follow traffic signals. Do not step into the road unless it is safe to do so.</b>	<b>28</b> <i>Citizen's Fire Academy applications due (see page 3)</i> Our Daily Bread: Empty Bowls, 6 pm, Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center Community Appearance Committee meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	<b>Don't forget: Citizens' Police Academy are due March 1. (See page 3.)</b> <b>Information:</b> <a href="http://www.fairfaxva.gov">www.fairfaxva.gov</a> , 703-385-7837	<b>Remember: Commercial Recycling Reports are due March 1. (See page 3.)</b> <b>Information:</b> <a href="http://www.fairfaxva.gov">www.fairfaxva.gov</a> , 703-385-7837



# ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION

**Date Change Alert:**  
**Fairfax Civil War Day**  
**now is scheduled for April 27**  
**at Historic Blenheim.**

**Information:**  
[www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov),  
703-385-8414

## Sherwood Cinema Series Continues

Catch a family movie for free at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center on the second Friday of the month. Lights go down at 7 pm, and participants may bring their own snacks.

Scheduled movies include *ParaNorman* February 8, *Hop* March 8 and *Toy Story 3* April 12.

## History Talks Planned February 10, 23

Watch *Between the Lines: Free Blacks Living on Mason Neck During the Civil War* at 2 pm February 10 at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street. For information, call 703-385-8414.

Georgetown University Professor Chandra Manning will discuss her book, *What This Cruel War is Over*, followed by a book signing and sale, at 2 p.m.

February 23 at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. For information, call 703-591-0560.

## Independence Day Logo, Grand Marshal, Parade Announcements

The Independence Day Celebration Committee (IDCC) is accepting nominations for the parade grand marshal through February 11.

The IDCC solicits area graphic designers and schools to participate in the 4th of July logo contest, based on the theme "We the People..." Logo submissions are due February 15. The winning artist will receive \$100 for usage and rights to the logo.

Parade applications, now available online, are due April 1.

Information and applications are available on the city website or call 703-385-7858.

## Looking for Chocolate Cakes and Sculptures

The Chocolate Lovers Festival Committee is in search of professional and amateur chefs of all ages to participate in the Chocolate Challenge as part of the Chocolate Lovers Festival.

Submit your works and tastes of art as the area's most talented chefs and chocolatiers judge the delectable submissions in numerous categories.

Applications are due by February 18. Pick up an application from the Chocolate Lovers Festival website ([www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net)) or call 703-385-7858.

## Vendor Applications Accepted for Three City Special Events

The City of Fairfax seeks applications for vendors to participate in three city special events:

- Food vendors are sought for the Independence Day activities July 4.
- Craft and food vendors are sought for the Fall Festival October 12 and the Holiday Craft Show November 16-17.

Applications, due March 14, are available on the city's website or call 703-385-7858.

## Stay in the Know With City Clips

Be sure to sign up for City Clips, which offers updates of concerts and other special events around the city.

Sign up via e-mail to [Joanna.Ormesher@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:Joanna.Ormesher@fairfaxva.gov) or by calling 703-273-6097.

**For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 703-385-7858 (TTY Relay: 7-1-1).**



# Cityscene

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